

**Amendment to the Agreement  
Between  
Birch Telecom of the South, Inc.  
and  
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.  
Dated July 14, 2000**

Pursuant to this Amendment, (the "Amendment"), Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. d/b/a Birch Telecom and d/b/a Birch ("Birch") on behalf of itself and its certificated operating affiliates identified in Part C hereof, and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Parties," hereby agree to amend that certain Interconnection Agreement between the Parties dated July 14, 2000 ("Agreement") to be effective upon the date of the last signature executing the Amendment.

WHEREAS, BellSouth and Birch entered into the Agreement on July 14, 2000,  
and;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. The parties agree to add the following provision to Attachment 2, Section 3.3.1 and the associated rates as set forth in Exhibit 1 of this Amendment, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.
  - 3.3.1.1 Where Birch utilizes portions of the BellSouth network in originating or terminating traffic, the Tandem Switching rates are applied in call scenarios where the Tandem Switching Network Element has been utilized. Because switch recordings cannot accurately indicate on a per call basis when the Tandem Switching Network Element has been utilized for an interoffice call originating from a UNE port and terminating to a BellSouth, Independent Company or Facility-Based CLEC office, BellSouth has developed, based upon call studies, a melded rate that takes into account the average percentage of calls that utilize Tandem Switching in these scenarios. BellSouth shall apply the melded Tandem Switching rate for every call in these scenarios. BellSouth shall utilize the melded Tandem Switching Rate until BellSouth has the capability to measure actual Tandem Switch usage in each call scenario specifically mentioned above, at which point the rate for the actual Tandem Switch usage shall apply. The UNE Call Flows set forth on BellSouth's website, as amended from time to time and incorporated herein by this reference, illustrate when the full or melded Tandem Switching rates apply for specific scenarios.
2. All of the other provisions of the Agreement, dated July 14, 2000, shall remain in full force and effect.
3. Either or both of the Parties are authorized to submit this Amendment to the respective state regulatory authorities for approval subject to Section 252(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**PART C**

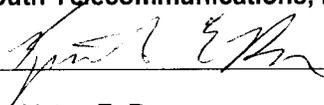
Schedule of Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. (Birch) Operating Affiliates

Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. d/b/a Birch Telecom and d/b/a Birch – FL

Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. – AL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC and TN

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement the day and year written below.

**BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.**

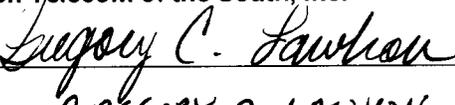
By: 

Name: Kristen E. Rowe

Title: Director

Date: 5/28/04

**Birch Telecom of the South, Inc.**

By: 

Name: GREGORY C. LAWHON

Title: SVP

Date: 5/27/04

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Alabama										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C				
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)	Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l				
							Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
							First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>																
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>															
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000040993										
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.000086947										
	Melded Factor: 43.15% of the Tandem Rate															

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Florida										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C			
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)				Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l
						Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
						First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>															
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>														
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000027185									
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.000048434									
	Melded Factor: 20.61% of the Tandem Rate														

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Georgia										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C			
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)				Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l
						Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
						First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>															
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>														
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000017904									
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.00002868									
	Melded Factor: 18.42% of the Tandem Rate														

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Kentucky										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C			
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)				Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l
						Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
						First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>															
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>														
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000094381									
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.000117538									
	Melded Factor: 48.65% of the Tandem Rate														

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Louisiana										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C				
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)	Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l				
							Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
							First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>																
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>															
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000035296										
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.000073438										
	Melded Factor: 33.08% of the Tandem Rate															

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Mississippi										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C				
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)	Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l				
							Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
							First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>																
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>															
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000063441										
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.000067307										
	Melded Factor: 36.82% of the Tandem Rate															

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - North Carolina										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C			
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)				Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l
						Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
							First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>															
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>														
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.00024618									
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.00012309									
	Melded Factor: 41.03% of the Tandem Rate														

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - South Carolina										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C				
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)	Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l				
							Rec	Nonrecurring		Nonrecurring Disconnect		OSS Rates (\$)				
							First	Add'l	First	Add'l	SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>																
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>															
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.00004951										
	Tandem Trunk Port - Shared, Per MOU (Melded)					0.000086749										
	Melded Factor: 30.30% of the Tandem Rate															

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS - Tennessee										Attachment: 2		Exhibit: C			
CATEGORY	RATE ELEMENTS	Interim	Zone	BCS	USOC	RATES (\$)				Svc Order Submitted Elec per LSR	Svc Order Submitted Manually per LSR	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Add'l	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc 1st	Incremental Charge - Manual Svc Order vs. Electronic-Disc Add'l
						Rec	Nonrecurring First	Add'l	Nonrecurring First	Disconnect Add'l	OSS Rates (\$)				
										SOME C	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN	SOMAN
<b>UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING, PORT USAGE</b>															
	<b>Tandem Switching (Port Usage) (Local or Access Tandem)</b>														
	Tandem Switching Function Per MOU (Melded)					0.000380364									
	Melded Factor: 38.90% of the Tandem Rate														